

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY
405 HILGARD AVENUE
LOS ANGELES 24, CALIFORNIA

May 17, 1960

Dear Bob:

It was a pleasure to get your long newsy letter and hear about all the strange umbels. I envy you the opportunity of having such a long stay and so many opportunities to collect. I hope we get a change to look over all the umbels upon your return.

I have been at the typewriter all day getting off the notices for Council meeting, etc. for ASPT at Stillwater in August which somehow makes me remember you. I wonder why? I have just returned from a week away, a part of which I spent in Miami, Florida attending a Conference on the problems of Tropical Botany, called by the NRC. It was my first view of Florida and I must say I was impressed - by the plants as well as the flatness and all the water. The conference was held at the Fairchild Gardens and we had a halfday trip down to Flamingo in the Everglades Park which is memorable. A number of your taxonomic friends were participating - Keck, Lawrence, Al Smith, Herb Baker, Fosberg, Rog McVaugh as well as such people as Stan Cain, Frits Went, Robbins, etc. - Dick Howard, George Taylor from Kew, Purseglove from Trinidad, H. Oldridge from Turrialba, etc. It was a very good group and I hope the conference will bear fruit- tropical fruit.

I leave here June 12th for two months in Amazonian Peru and also into Ecuador (I hope). Last summer we got quite a view of Peru all the way to Iquitos and this summer promises to be even better. I am taking my oldest daughter with me which will make the trip much more fun. She is graduating at Berkeley in June with a major in Anthropology and strong leanings toward ethnobotany. She is going on for graduate work next year either here or at Penn. She was awarded both a Woodrow Wilson and an NSF and took the latter for financial reasons. She is the top Phi Beta Kappa initiate on the Berkeley campus this spring. I haven't even tried to wear a hat since hearing that.

I have not been in Berkeley nor seen Lincoln since early February. He is as busy as I. However the letters go back and forth frequently. I have been busy typing the final copy, I hope, for the umbels for the Flora of Peru. It should be complete before I take off again this summer.

Best wishes to you and the family,

Sincerely,

Mildred E. Mathias
Mildred E. Mathias

Please bring or send me seeds of any, all umbels. I'm growing as many as I can get.